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Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-6, 14-16 and 30 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-6, 8 and 10-34 are presented for examination.

Claims 30-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant submits that claim 30 has been amended to appear in proper condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6, 10-11, 15-21, 24-27, and 30-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lok et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0182469) in view of Merrill et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,369,821). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Lok in view of Merrill.

Lok discloses that a component in an user interface toolkit may be configured to render a graphical item and the remote-capable component may be configured to generate a command to render a graphical item. Similarly, the server may be configured to communicate the message to the user interface toolkit on the remote client to render a graphical item in response to the invocation by the application. The component of the user interface toolkit on the remote client may be configured to render the graphical item in response to the message. See Lok at paragraph [0027].

Merrill discloses an animation system that provides synchronization services to synchronize actions of two more interactive user interface characters that are displayed simultaneously. The animation services allow applications to make animation requests to control the actions of characters on the display. These actions include playing one of the character's animation sequences and generating speech output with lip-synched animation of the character's

mouth. Accessible via script commands or an Application Programming Interface, the synchronization services allow an application to control interaction between two or more characters on the display. Applications can synchronize actions by invoking straightforward commands such as Wait, Interrupt, or Stop. In response to these commands, the animation server synchronizes scheduled actions by halting playback of a character until a specified action of another character completes or halting a specified action of one character after scheduled actions for another character are completed. See Merrill at Abstract.

Claim 1 of the present application recites receiving, a motion command, an index, a plurality of display coordinates and a time value at a first device from a second device. Applicant submits both Lok and Merrill fail to disclose or suggest receiving an index, display coordinates or a time value at a first device from a second device via network. Lok discloses client receiving a message to perform a function from at a client from a server. However, there is no disclosure or suggestion of the message including an index, display coordinates or a time value.

Further, claim 1 recites updating a frame buffer of the first device with an image object of an image cache over a time period to animate the image object per a motion command. Applicant submits neither Lok nor Merrill disclose or suggest such a feature. Merrill has been cited as disclosing this feature. Particularly, the Office Action asserts that Merrill discloses this feature since Merrill discloses "the method used to retrieve image data for the current frame. If the frame type is an image, the sequencer first looks in a data cache of frame bitmaps for an entry equal to the next frame's ID." See Office Action at page 5, second full paragraph.

However, applicant submits that such an assertion does not address a process of updating a frame buffer with an image object of an image cache over a time period to animate the image

object per the motion command. Since Lok and Merrill each fail to disclose or suggest receiving an index, display coordinates or a time value at a first device from a second device via network and updating a frame buffer with an image object of an image cache over a time period to animate the image object per a motion command, any combination of Lok and Merrill would fail to disclose or suggest such features. As a result, claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable over Lok in view of Merrill.

Independent claims 17, 24 and 30 each include limitations similar to those recited in claim 1, and therefore are patentable over Lok in view of Merrill for reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 8, 12, 13, 22, 23, 28, 29, 33, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lok et al., in view of Merrill et al., in further view of Stern (U.S. Patent No. 4,600,919). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Lok and Merrill even in view of Stern.

Stern discloses an improved method and apparatus for generating a sequence of video frames representative of three-dimensional animation. A plurality of key frames are stored, each key frame including a common figure having one or more joints, and each joint having associated therewith a set of vectors defining a limb. Each joint is defined in each frame by operator-controllable parameters which determine the three-dimensional position, rotational orientation, and scale factors of a local coordinate system in which the limb vectors are placed. A plurality of in-between frames are generated, the in-between frames including the common figure having one or more joints and limbs corresponding to the joints and limbs of the common figure in the key frames. The parameters of the joints of the in-between frames are obtained by interpolating in three dimensions, the position, rotational orientation, and scale factors of the

corresponding joints of the key frames. In the preferred embodiment, the joints of each figure are arranged in hierarchical order, and the positional coordinates and rotational orientations of the local coordinate system for a particular joint are determined with respect to the local coordinate system of the next higher joint in the hierarchy. Also, the operator can control the interpolation during display of the in-between frames, so as to change the motion of a figure limb. See Stern at Abstract.

However, Stern does not disclose or suggest receiving an index, display coordinates or a time value at a first device from a second device via network, or updating a frame buffer with an image object of an image cache over a time period to animate the image object per a motion command. As discussed above, Lok and Merrill do not disclose or suggest such features. Thus, any combination of Lok, Merrill and Stern would not disclose or suggest the features.

Accordingly, the present claims are patentable over the combination of Lok, Merrill and Stern.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lok et al., in view of Merrill et al., in further view of Richardson (NPL Document, "The RFB Protocol"). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over a combination of Lok, Merrill and Richardson since none of the references disclose or suggest receiving an index, display coordinates or a time value at a first device from a second device via network, or updating a frame buffer with an image object of an image cache over a time period to animate the image object per a motion command

Applicant submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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